




## City of San Diego

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 8, 2012

TO: Council President Tony Young  
City Clerk Liz Maland

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio 

RE: Proposed REPAIR Ballot Measure

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The condition of San Diego's roads is a top concern for taxpayers, and rightfully so given that a recent report found San Diego has the 8<sup>th</sup> worst roads in the nation.

I strongly believe that the City of San Diego must do more to repair and maintain neighborhood infrastructure – starting with our roads.

I am pleased that the Mayor and City Council have taken a number of positive steps to improve infrastructure funding and management. However, I believe we must continue to push to do more.

To start the discussion on options for improving road repairs and other maintenance of neighborhood infrastructure, in accordance with Council Policy relating to the proposal of ballot measures, I hereby submit the attached amendment to the City Charter relating to funding and accountability programs for infrastructure repairs, for discussion at the June 13, 2012 Rules Committee meeting.

The Repave and Eliminate Potholes through Accountability for Infrastructure Repairs (REPAIR) Initiative will impose accountability measures on city officials to ensure that road and other infrastructure repairs are made a priority, and are funded without the need for a tax increase.

Specifically, the measure will establish a "Lock Box" where increased revenues above the city's FY 2013 budget would be placed for the purpose of repairing and maintaining city streets.

I submit this proposal as a starting point to begin both legal and financial analyses on the “Lock Box” concept and expand our discussion on how to tackle our city’s infrastructure deficit.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to move the REPAIR initiative forward, and welcome any recommendations and input to ensure that we are able to prioritize our streets while protecting core city services such as police, fire, and libraries.

cc:     Honorable Mayor Jerry Sanders  
          Honorable Members of the City Council

Enclosure

# **“REPAIR” Ballot Initiative**

## ***Funding and Accountability for Road Repairs***

**Article VII (Finance) of the San Diego City Charter is hereby amended to add the following sections:**

Section 77(c): Five Year Funding and Accountability Program for Infrastructure Repairs.

There is hereby created an Infrastructure Financing “Lock Box” Fund in the General Fund for the purpose of reducing the deferred maintenance liability in city infrastructure.

Beginning with FY 2014 and continuing through FY 2018, any increase in General Fund revenues above the FY 2013 baseline of General Fund revenues shall be deposited in the Infrastructure Financing “Lock Box” Fund for the purpose of repairing, rebuilding, replacing and maintaining core city infrastructure.

Beginning with FY 2014 and continuing through FY 2018, the Mayor and City Council shall not adopt or amend the annual budget in any way that results in a net reduction from the FY 13 baseline of General Fund infrastructure funding for the purpose of repairing, rebuilding, replacing and maintaining core city infrastructure.

In expending funds from this Infrastructure Financing “Lock Box” Fund, the Mayor and City Council shall make every effort to leverage funds to facilitate the maximum level of investment in infrastructure. In selecting projects to be funded from the “Lock Box” Fund, the Mayor and Council shall give priority to repair of streets, sidewalks, and public facilities.

The City Auditor shall verify that the appropriate amount of funds are deposited annually into this reserve account and shall audit the use of the funds to ensure funds are used solely for repairing, rebuilding, replacing and maintaining core city infrastructure.

By July 1, 2017, the City Auditor shall issue a report to the Mayor and City Council accounting for all funds expended from the Infrastructure Financing Lock Box and identifying progress made on reducing or eliminating the city’s deferred maintenance liability in city infrastructure.

This section shall sunset on June 30, 2018.